

*T*he Wolf Pack gathered to honor one of its own in a memorial service June 15 in Hangar 3.

More than 1,500 people paid their respects to 1st Lt. Randolph "Chongo" Murff, 26, 35th Fighter Squadron pilot, who died when his F-16 Fighting Falcon crashed into a rice paddy June 12 about 40 miles southeast of Kunsan Air Base. Murff was a Bellaire, Texas, native.

Lt. Col. Michael Beale, who took command of the 35th FS June 8, posthumously awarded Murff the Aerial Achievement and Air Force Commendation medals.

The memorial service ended with a full military honors ceremony. The Air Force is conducting an investigation into the F-16 crash.

In lieu of flowers for Murff's family, they've requested that people who wish to remember "Chongo" to make donations to the Air Force Aid Society in order to assist other Air Force members.



In memory of

1st Lt. Randolph "Chongo" Murff



Photos by Master Sgt. James Mossman, 8th CS/VI

Above left: Capt. Francis Howard, 8th Operations Support Squadron, flashes the Pantone call sign as he pays respect during the memorial service for fallen comrade 1st Lt. Randolph "Chongo" Murff. Right: Lt. Col. Michael Beale, 35th Fighter Squadron commander, receives the flag from Kunsan's Honor Guard at the service.

